

# BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

Vol. 2, No. 12

February 15, 2000

I have not yet begun to fight!"



## DEFENSE BUDGET FOCUSES ON 'QUALITY OF LIFE' PROGRAMS FOR SERVICE MEMBERS

By Associated Press

In pitching President Clinton's proposed \$77 billion defense budget, Pentagon leaders are finding a Congress sympathetic to their plan for spending billions more on "quality of life" programs for the troops: another substantial pay raise, cheaper housing, easier access to health care.

Better treatment for the troops is a matter of growing importance and urgency, in the view of Defense Secretary William Cohen and the service chiefs. It also is good politics, especially in an election year.

"The life blood of America's defense posture will continue to be the individual soldier, Sailor, airman and Marine," Cohen said. "Their high quality remains essential to future U.S. security under any threat scenario."

Cohen told the House Armed Services Committee last week that military health care reform was "perhaps the single most important issue" in the coming debate over military spending. But the most compelling aspect of that reform – restoring full health benefits to veterans over age 65 – is not addressed in the 2001 budget

plan, mainly because of its multi-billion dollar cost.

The Pentagon is pushing to make military life more attractive because defense officials have realized the booming civilian economy is luring potential recruits and enticing active-duty troops to leave the service.

In 1999, the Army could snag only 9 percent of the recruits it needed. The Air Force also fell short, despite advertising on television for the first time. The Navy and Marine Corps met their targets.

Last year the administration proposed a 4.4 percent pay raise for troops, which Congress bumped up to 4.8 percent – the biggest across-the-board increase in military pay since the early 1980s.

President Clinton's proposal for the budget year that begins Oct. 1 includes improvements in the military health care system known as TriCare. He is requesting \$80 million to provide an HMO-type health care benefit plan for military members stationed far from military medical facilities.

**FAA GROUNDS 11 MORE AIRLINERS**

By Associated Press

Airlines temporarily grounded 11 more jets Saturday under government order to examine tail wings for a problem that may have caused an Alaska Airlines jet to crash two weeks ago.

Since Thursday, at least 21 planes have been found to have irregularities with tail wing jackscrews, the 2-foot-long rods that drive the stabilizers that keep planes level. According to numbers from the Federal Aviation Administration and airlines, the jackscrew recovered from the submerged wreckage of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 had damaged threads and metal shavings.

The National Transportation Safety Bureau has not determined whether jackscrew damage caused the Jan. 31 crash, after similar damages were found on other Alaska Airlines jets. The FAA ordered all airlines to inspect their MD-80s, MD-90s, Boeing 717s and DC-9s, about 1,200 planes in all.

In a statement Saturday, the FAA said 13 planes had been grounded for jackscrew problems.

## BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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**DEMOCRATIC SPEECHES DIFFER**

By Associated Press

Al Gore and Bill Bradley have delivered back-to-back speeches as different as night and day at the California Democratic Convention Saturday.

The room was heavily stacked against Bradley, and he trails Gore by about four to one in California, but the former New Jersey Senator argued passionately for converts.

The vice president, meantime, mounted his most ruthless offensive yet in the increasingly hostile contest saying that Bradley is not a "real democrat."

Bradley hardly glanced at his notes, while Gore relied on his, declaring that Bradley has "attacked" and "demeaned" the Democratic Party by faulting President Clinton's administration.

Bradley highlighted goals of universal health care and elimination of child poverty.

**\* TUESDAY SITE TV SCHEDULE \***

CHANNEL 2

1030 KING OF QUEENS

1100 SEARCHING FOR BOBBY FISHER

1630 THE PRACTICE

1730 JEOPARDY

1800 HERCULES, LEGENDARY JOURNEY

1900 ENTERTAINERS

2000 GLORIA

2200 GHOST

CHANNEL 6

1030 JUST SHOOT ME

1100 THE SHOOTIST

1630 GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE

1800 SOUL FOOD

2000 SCREAM 2

2200 GODFATHER II

## N ATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### PEANUTS' CREATOR SCHULZ DIES

By Associated Press

Charles M. Schulz, the cartoonist who delighted the world with the adventures and adversities of Charlie Brown, his friends and a dog named Snoopy, died on Saturday on the eve of the publication of his last "Peanuts" strip. He was 77.

Schulz, who was diagnosed with colon cancer and suffered a series of small strokes during emergency abdominal surgery last November, died in his sleep at about 9:45 p.m., his son Craig Schulz said.

His comic strip, "Peanuts," made its debut on Oct. 2, 1950. The travails of the "little round-headed kid" and his pals eventually ran in more than 2,400 newspapers, reaching millions of readers in 68 countries.

The Peanuts gang became a part of American popular culture, delivering gentle humor spiked with a child's-eye view of human foibles. One of the strip's most endearing qualities was its constancy. The long-suffering Charlie Brown facing misfortune with a mild, "Good grief!"

"Why do musicians compose symphonies and poets write poems?" Schulz once said. "They do it because life wouldn't have any meaning for them if they didn't. That's why I draw cartoons. It's my life."



A possible winner calls out "Bingo!" during Sunday's Bingo game. (Photo by PH3 Scott Webb.)

### THRUSTERS THREATEN SHUTTLES MISSION TO MAP THE EARTH

By Associated Press

Space shuttle Endeavour's astronauts pelted Earth with more radar signals Sunday as NASA struggled to understand a thruster problem that could cut their mapping of the world a little short.

A valve on the end of the 197-foot radar antenna mast was not providing nearly enough thrust, despite constant flow of nitrogen gas. Engineers suspected a tiny leak somewhere in the gas line.

To compensate, Endeavour's pilots had to fire the shuttle thrusters more than usual to keep the mast in the right position.

The added thruster firings meant more fuel was used than anticipated, and flight controllers said mapping might have to be halted eight hours early next Sunday.

### 47 PERCENT OF BLACK HOMES HEADED BY SINGLE WOMEN

By Associated Press

Black households are more likely than white households to be headed by women without a partner living at home, and the overall black population tends to be younger, the Census Bureau reports.

Data from 1999 was released Monday showing that while married couples head 47 percent of the country's 8.4 million black households, about 45 percent, or 3.8 million families, are led by women without partners present. Of the nation's 53.1 million white households, only 13 percent are headed by women alone.

The statistics are being released in conjunction with Black History Month.

## SPORTS

### K WAN WINS FOURTH U.S. TITLE

By Associated Press

The last time Michelle Kwan skated this cautiously and with so little fire, she lost the Olympic gold medal to Tara Lipinski. She should thank some generous judges for helping her stave off the wave of young Americans on Saturday to win her third straight U.S. Figure Skating Championships crown.

### WEISS REPEATS AS CHAMPION

By Associated Press

Timothy Goebel may be the Quad King, but Michael Weiss remains the king of U.S. skating. While Goebel made history with three quadruple jumps Saturday night at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, Weiss was almost majestic with an expressive program that earned him one 6.0 for artistry and his second title.



Bingo players concentrate as the numbers are called. (Photo by PH3 Scott Webb.)

### NHL SCORES

PHILADELPHIA 3	BUFFALO 2
FLORIDA 5	BOSTON 1
VANCOUVER 4	TORONTO 1
CHICAGO 4	ATLANTA 3
MONTREAL 5	OTTAWA 4
NY ISLANDERS 5	PITTSBURGH 1
CAROLINA 5	TAMPA BAY 2
WASHINGTON 4	NASHVILLE 2
ST. LOUIS 6	ANAHEIM 3
PHOENIX 4	CALGARY 3

### JARRETT TO START ON POLE

By Associated Press

Dale Jarrett, the defending Winston Cup champion, will start the 2000 NASCAR season on the pole for next Sunday's Daytona 500. He edged out Ricky Rudd with a lap of just over 191 miles per hour Saturday. Jeff Gordon, last year's Daytona 500 winner, finished a disappointing 23rd in Saturday's qualifying round.

### WOODS NEEDS MIRACLE

By Associated Press

Tiger Woods is going to need another miracle comeback to keep his PGA tour winning streak alive. Woods is six shots back of Phil Mickelson entering Sunday's final round of the Buick Invitational.

Woods and Mickelson each shot five-under 67 Saturday. Woods is trying for his seventh straight victory on the PGA tour.

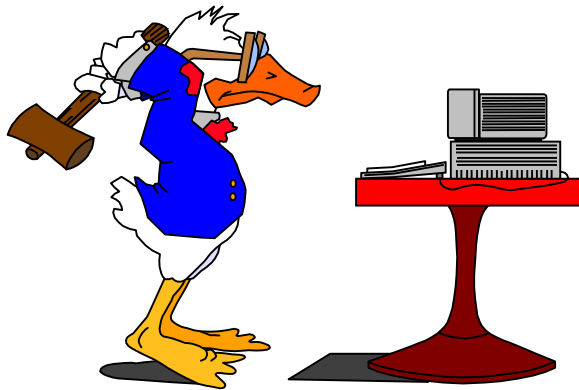
This is the biggest hole woods has been in entering a final round since his streak began last August. But he's the comeback kid. Woods came from five shots back on the final day to win at Pebble Beach last Monday.

### NCAA TOP 25 SCORES

(2)STANFORD 81	OREGON STATE 56
(3)DUKE 84	GEORGIA TECH 65
(5)OHIO STATE 88	PENN STATE 75
(6)MICHIGAN ST 61	WISCONSIN 44
(7)ARIZONA 73	WASHINGTON ST 50
(8)TENNESSEE 76	(12)FLORIDA 73
NOTRE DAME 68	(13)CONNECTICUT 66
(14)OKLAHOMA ST 74	(16)OKLAHOMA 71
(17)IOWA STATE 87	NEBRASKA 65
(18)TEXAS 66	MISSOURI 63
(20)KANSAS 94	KANSAS STATE 65
(21)UTAH 77	BRIGHAM YOUNG 62
ALABAMA 77	(22)VANDERBILT 63
(24)OREGON 64	CALIFORNIA 60

# STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

STRESS IS A NORMAL PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE. DIFFERENT THINGS STRESS DIFFERENT PEOPLE. LONG HARD HOURS, READINESS DEMANDS, FINANCIAL PRESSURES, DEPLOYMENT AND RETURN, MOVING, WORK CENTER RELATIONS, WEIGHT, FAMILY, ARE ALL COMMON "STRESSERS." STRESS LEFT UNMANAGED CAN BECOME DISTRESS, WHICH CAN LEAD TO HEALTH PROBLEMS, DEPRESSION, ANGER, FAMILY VIOLENCE. BUT, STRESS CAN WORK TO YOUR ADVANTAGE WHEN YOU HANDLE IT EFFECTIVELY, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY. LEARN HOW TO PUT STRESS IN ITS PLACE BY ATTENDING THE STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP AND SUPPORT GROUP SPONSORED BY BHR MEDICAL DEPARTMENT AND THE CHAPLAINS OFFICE.



- u TIME OF DAY: 1930
- u DATE: FEB 15, 2000
- u LOCATION: MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
- u SPEAKER: LT RASSNER( BHR DOC)
- u INVITATION: TO ALL HANDS